ST AUGUSTINE'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

COMPUTING POLICY 2017-18

At St Augustine's, we have a Computing curriculum which aims to give children the transferable skills they need to be successful in an increasingly technology-focused world.

This policy outlines the teaching and learning of Computing within the school. This policy will be reviewed periodically by the Computing Subject leader and given to the governors for approval and amendment if necessary. The implementation of the policy is the responsibility of all teaching staff and will be monitored by the subject leader, the Head Teacher and the governors.

AIMS OF COMPUTING IN OUR SCHOOL

At St Augustine's we aim to use computing whenever and wherever possible to enhance the teaching and learning of our pupils using its visual audio and interactive capabilities. We will use resources to enable the children to become confident with ever changing technology. Pupils will be taught to use equipment and software confidently and purposefully to communicate and handle information. They will develop talents for their future through the skill based teaching of computing and its application to all aspects of the curriculum and everyday life.

WHAT IS COMPUTING?

The core of computing is computer science, in which pupils are taught the principles of information and computation, how digital systems work and how to put this knowledge to use through programming. Building on this knowledge and understanding, pupils are equipped to use information technology to create programs, systems and a range of content. Computing also ensures that pupils become digitally literate – able to use, and express themselves and develop their ideas through, information and communication technology – at a level suitable for the future workplace and as active participants in a digital world. (Statutory guidance National curriculum in England: computing programmes of study Published 11 September 2013)

CURRICULUM ORGANISATION

The curriculum is delivered through our scheme of work and will be incorporating in other subject areas where deemed appropriate. Each class has timetabled access to equipment for discrete teaching of computing as well as for embedding across the curriculum

Through direct teaching, and through experience gained in other curriculum areas, children develop their skills in the following areas:

1. E-safety - the ability to communicate in a safe and respectful manner.

2. Communication - we teach children to be creative in the way they use technology to communicate their knowledge and understanding of the world.

3. Collecting data - we teach children how to use technology to expand their knowledge, while at the same time teaching them how to do so safely and knowing how to find reliable information sources.

4. Programming - we teach children how to use technology to solve problems. Using a range of tools, we teach children the skills of problem solving, creativity and logical thinking which underpin the skills needed to program.

The curriculum will be reviewed in July 2014 in light of changes to the national curriculum.

INTERNET ACCESS AND ACCEPTABLE USAGE
The school has implemented a separate policy which has been agreed by staff and governors and signed by parents.

MONITORING
Monitoring is carried out by the Head Teacher, Deputy Head Teacher and Subject Leader in the following ways:

- informal discussion with staff and pupils
- observation of lessons and displays
- planning is monitored by subject leader and deputy head

RECORDING ASSESSMENT AND REPORTING
Formative assessment is used to guide the progress of individual pupils in their use of computing. Progress will be reported to parents via the annual written report. As class teachers deliver the scheme of work, they will record progress and there will be opportunities for the pupils to carry out self assessment.

PURCHASING, MAINTENANCE AND UPGRADING RESOURCES
Requirements are determined through training audits, review and staff discussion. Generic software is purchased by the technician to serve staff in delivering the components of the curriculum. Any faults will be reported to the technician.

HEALTH AND SAFETY
All equipment will be checked annually. Each computer system has individual security against access to the management and teacher system. The files and network system are regularly backed up to avoid the loss of any work. The virus checker is updated regularly. Appropriate electric safety checks of all hardware are carried out annually at the same time as other electrical equipment is checked in the school. Children will be made aware of the correct way to sit when using equipment. As part of our E Safety programme of study, children will be taught the specific rules for the use of Internet and email.